

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-11 SAM-01 SAJ-01 EB-07

AGR-10 COME-00 ACDA-10 OMB-01 /093 W

----- 102337

O R 030955Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4392

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 3205

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR IN

SUBJECT: RENEWED CRITICISM OF "FOREIGN INTERFERENCE" BY PRIME MINISTER

1. REVERTING TO THE THEME OF "FOREIGN INTERFERENCE" AFTER A WEEK'S LULL, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD A HUGE CROWD ON THE CALCUTTA MAIDAN MARCH 2: "LET ME, AS PRIME MINISTER OF THIS COUNTRY, TELL FOREIGN POWERS THAT WE WILL NOT TOLERATE INTERFERENCE IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS. THE MORE THEY INTERFERE IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, THE MORE RIGID AND DETERMINED WE WILL BE IN DEALING WITH THEM." SHE SAID THAT THESE FOREIGN POWERS, BOTH FROM THE EASTERN AND WESTERN HEMISPHERES, FROM TIME TO TIME OPPOSED INDIA ON ONE PRETEXT OR THE OTHER. "BUT LET ME MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THIS DOES NOT BOTHER US. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR MAKING INDIA A STRONG AND PROSPEROUS NATION," SHE SAID.

2. MRS GANDHI REFERRED TO SOME INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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LIKE THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL, AND ASKED WHO WERE

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THESE ORGANIZATIONS AND WHICH WERE THE FORCES BACKING THEM AND GIVING THEM MONEY. MRS. GANDHI REPORTEDLY SAID THAT SOME COUNTRIES GREW INCREASINGLY HOSTILE TO INDIA WHEN IT FORMULATED ITS SOCIALISTIC POLICIES AND THE HOSTILITY FURTHER INCREASED IN 1971 AND 1972 WHEN RESOUNDING SUCCESS IN ELECTIONS BY PATRIOTIC FORCES CUT INTERNAL REACTIONARY FORCES TO SIZE. SHE SAID THEY BITTERLY ATTACKED INDIA WHEN IT EMBARKED ON BUILDING STEEL PLANTS AND THE MACHINERY INDUSTRY, AND ADVISED IT TO GO INTO ONLY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION BECAUSE INDIA IS POOR AND NEEDED FOOD GRAINS, BUT THAT THEY PLEADED FOR MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES "FOR OUR INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS."

3. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SHE WAS NOT "ANSWERABLE TO ANY BIG OR SMALL COUNTRY IN THE WORLD. I AM ONLY ANSWERABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY." NO COUNTRY HAD SOUGHT TO UNDERSTAND THERE WAS DEMOCRACY IN INDIA (UNLIKE ANY OTHER COUNTRY IN ASIA) AND THEREFORE THEY SHOULD HELP INDIA BUT INSTEAD THEY WENT ON TO HELP MILITARY DICTATORSHIPS. THESE COUNTRIES THOUGHT INDIA WAS WEAK, THAT IT COULD NOT DO A THING AND WOULD SUCCUMB TO PRESSURE. NOW THESE COUNTRIES SEIZED ON THE EMERGENCY AS A NEW PLEA FOR ATTACKS ON INDIA.

4. SHE WARNED OF DRASTIC ACTION BY THE GOVERNMENT AGAINST FORCES TRYING TO WEAKEN NATIONAL INTEGRITY WITH THE "FINANCIAL BACKING FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES." THESE ELEMENTS WOULD BE "FOUGHT BACK WITH THE SAME FORCE AND VIGOR WITH WHICH THEY WANT TO DISRUPT US."SAXBE

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